

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2005. The Examiner's comments have been carefully considered.

Applicants request an extension of one month to extend the response date from December 21, 2005, to January 23, 2006. Please charge the \$120.00 extension fee to our account no. 10-0100.

It is noted that the priority papers have been received and placed of record in the file.

The drawings have been objected to because the boxes shown in several of the figures have not been labeled as to their function. Submitted herewith are copies of the relevant sheets of drawings marked to illustrate the proposed corrections in order to comply with the drawings requirement. It is believed that labeling the drawings as proposed will overcome the drawing objections. Submitted herewith, therefore, are corrected drawing sheets in accordance with Rule 121(d).

The drawings have also objected to because they reference numeral 15, shown in Figs. 3, 4A-4B and 5A-5B which is not mentioned in the description. The specification has been amended to make reference to the couplers 15, shown in these Figs.

The title has been objected and a new title has been proposed which is believed to be descriptive and should overcome the objection.

Claims 2 and 3 have been rejected as being indefinite for reasons

set forth in paragraphs 6-8. The indicators 19 are discussed, for example, at page 12 of the specification, and claims 2 and 3 have been amended to eliminate both the issues of antecedent basis as well as the term being deemed objectionable by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 2 and 3 overcome the rejections based on indefiniteness.

Claims 1-3 have been rejected based on U.S. Published Patent No. 2002-0169914 A1 in view of or when combined with Korean Publication No.2004 006551 to Jang. For reasons that are more fully discussed below, the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed, both as they relate to original claims 1-3 as well as newly added claims 4-6, which are similar to claims 1-3 except that claims 1-3 are directed to optical adapters while claims 4-6 are directed to receptacles.

The present invention is a distributing system with mutually connecting optical connection lines using connection plugs with memory function units in which numerous plug boards are employed. Each plug board comprises a connection plug with a memory function unit capable of performing, from the outside thereof, and without touching or physical contact, the writing-in operations and the reading-out operations of the identification information belonging to the same connector plugs.

U.S. Patent No. 6,361,357 B1 to Stillwell et al. does not employ the memory function required by the present invention. Therefore, it cannot teach or even suggest the present invention.

South Korean Patent No. 2004 006551 A to Jang was published after the priority date of the present invention (which is November 15, 2002) and after the filing date of the present application. It therefore cannot be used as a prior art reference and combined with the primary reference.

Despite the Examiner's rejections of the present invention, Stillwell et al. does not teach or suggest the memory function of the present invention. As for Jang, the latter reference cannot even be applied to the subject application because it is not prior art.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that since these two references cannot be properly combined, they cannot be used to form the basis for a prima facie obviousness rejection. However, even if the references could be combined, they would not teach or suggest the invention for the aforementioned reasons. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. The same is true for claims 2 and 3, which depend on allowable claim 1 and, therefore should be allowed with the allowance thereof. The same is true for new claims 4-6, for the same reasons.

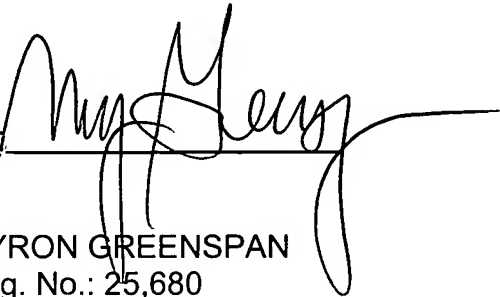
The application appears to be in condition for allowance. Early allowance and issuance is therefore respectfully solicited.

Applicant hereby petitions that any and all extensions of time of the term necessary to render this response timely be granted. COSTS FOR SUCH EXTENSION(S) AND/OR ANY OTHER FEE DUE WITH THIS FEE DUE WITH THIS PAPER THAT ARE NOT FULLY COVERED BY AN ENCLOSED CHECK MAY BE CHARGED TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT #10-0100.

Date: 1/23/06

Respectfully ubmitted,

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